

## Contents.

LETTER III.

Energy of feeling: as necessary as confidence of opinion—Conduct  
that results from  
their combination—Effect and vnu<> of a ruling passion—Great  
decision of char  
acter invests even wicked beings with something which we are  
tempted to admire  
—Satan—Zanga—A Spanish assassin—Remarkable example of this  
quality in a  
maa who was a prodigal and became poor, but turned miser and  
became rich—  
Howard—"Whitefield—Christian missionaries.....p.  
08

LETTER IV.

Courage a chief constituent of the. character—Effect of this in  
 encountering  
 sure and ridicule—Alm.igro, Pizarro, and De Luques—Defiance  
 of Luther—Daniel—Another indispensable requisite to decision is the  
 full  
 of all the powers of the mind—Lady Macbeth—Richard III—  
 Cromwell—A  
 who had the opportunity of saving'one of two sons from death..p.  
 75

LETTER V.

Formidable power of mischief which this high quality gives to bad men—Care required to prevent its rendering good men unconctliating and overbearing—Independence and overruling manner in consultation—Lord Chatham—Decision of character not incompatible with sensibility and mild manners—But the majority of the most eminent examples of it deficient in the kinder affections—King of Prussia—Situations in which it may be an absolute duty to act in opposition to the promptings of those affections.....p. 82

LETTER VI.

Circumstances tending to consolidate this Character—Opposition  
 Desertion—  
 Harms—Satan—Charles dc^ Moor—Success has the same  
 tendency—Caesar—  
 Habit of associating -with inferiors—Voluntary means of forming  
 or conforming  
 this character—The acquisition of perfect knowledge in the  
 department in which  
 we are to act—The cultivation of a connected and conclusiv<sup>e</sup>  
 manner of reasoning!  
 ~The resolute commencement of action, in a manner to commit  
 ourselves  
 irretrievably—Ledyard—The choice of a dignified order of concerns  
 ~The appro-«  
 bation of conscience—Yet melancholy to consider how many of  
 the most  
 distinguished possessors of the quality have been wicked „„„.j>.  
 \$1

ESSAY 111.

ON THE APPLICATION OF THE EPITHET  
ROMANTIC.

LETTER I.

Great convenience of having a number of words that will answer  
the purposes of ridicule or reprobation without having any  
precise meaning—Puritan-Methodist

—Jacobin—The word Romantic of the greatest service to priests, &c., &c.,  
to show their scorn, have not wherewithal in the way of sense or wit—Whenever  
this epithet is applied, let the exact meaning be demanded—Does it attribute,  
to what it is applied to, the kind of absurdity prevalent in the works called  
Romances?—That absurdity VULGAR, >»», ^>>, <^—, —, "—, "—, "  
imagination over judgment—Mental character of the early writers—  
Opposite character of Cervantes-Delightful, delusive, and operation  
mischievous> of a predominant imagination—Yet desirable, for several reasons, that tha  
imagination should have this ascendancy in early hfe.....!<<<  
.....P\* ("